

Inventor: Stephen B. Auger  
Serial No.: 09/932,976  
Filed: August 21, 2001  
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**REMARKS**

Claims 1-18 and 20-56 were indicated to be pending in the previous Office Action mailed August 8, 2002. Claims 1-18 and 20-56 have been cancelled without prejudice to Applicant pursuing these claims in a related application. New claims 57-120 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification and the claims as filed. In particular, support for the new claims can be found, for example, in original claims 2-17 and on page 3, lines 12-24; page 5, lines 9-14; page 6, line 25, to page 7, line 1; and page 8, lines 1-2. Accordingly, these new claims do not raise an issue of new matter and entry thereof is respectfully requested.

**Regarding the Abandonment**

Regarding the abandonment of the application, Applicant respectfully requests revival of the application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b), submitted herewith is the reply to the final Office Action mailed August 8, 2002, and the Notice of Appeal mailed on November 8, 2002, in the form of a Request for Continued Examination and supplemental amendment. Also submitted herewith is a petition in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b). Applicant respectfully requests revival of the unintentionally abandoned application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The rejection of claims 2-18, 20-22 and 53-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite is respectfully traversed. Applicant submits that that the rejection of these claims has been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The rejection of claims 2, 4-7, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 20-22 and 53-55 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Dombay, U.S. Patent No. 3,554,785, is respectfully traversed. Applicant submits that the rejection of these claims has been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

With regard to new claims 57-120, Applicant respectfully submits that Dombay does not teach the claimed methods. Dombay does not teach contacting a substrate with a first aqueous solution, comprising or consisting of a specifically recited metal salt solution, and a second aqueous solution, comprising or consisting of the oxidizing agent solution sodium hydroxide or tannic acid, to stain the substrate. Therefore, Dombay cannot anticipate new claims 57-120.

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The rejection of claims 2, 4-6, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 20 and 53-55 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Matsushita, JP 60-250906 (English translation), is respectfully traversed. Applicant submits that the rejection of these claims has been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

With regard to new claims 57-120, Applicant respectfully submits that Matsushita does not teach the claimed methods. Matsushita does not teach contacting a substrate with a first aqueous solution, comprising or consisting of a specifically recited metal salt solution, and a second aqueous solution, comprising or consisting of the oxidizing agent solution sodium hydroxide or tannic acid, to stain the substrate. Therefore, Matsushita cannot anticipate new claims 57-120.

The rejection of claims 2, 4-7, 10-22 and 53-56 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Bures, CS145495 (English translation), is respectfully traversed. Applicant submits that the rejection of these claims has been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

With regard to new claims 57-120, Applicant respectfully submits that Bures does not teach the claimed methods. Bures does not teach contacting a substrate with a first aqueous solution, comprising or consisting of a specifically recited metal salt solution, and a second

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aqueous solution, comprising or consisting of the oxidizing agent solution sodium hydroxide or tannic acid, to stain the substrate. Therefore, Bures cannot anticipate new claims 57-120.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The rejection of claims 3 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly obvious over Dombay, *supra*, Bures, *supra*, or Matsushita, *supra*, in view of Armstrong, U.S. Patent No. 5,242,464, is respectfully traversed. Applicant submits that the rejection of these claims has been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

With regard to new claims 57-86 and as discussed above, none of Dombay, Bures or Matsushita teach or suggest the claimed method of treating a substrate by contacting the substrate with a first aqueous solution, comprising or consisting of a specifically recited metal salt solution, and a second aqueous solution, comprising or consisting of the oxidizing agent solution sodium hydroxide or tannic acid, to stain the substrate. Therefore, none of Dombay, Bures or Matsushita can render the claimed methods obvious. Moreover, Armstrong does not cure the deficiencies of any of Dombay, Bures or Matsushita. Accordingly, none of Dombay, Bures or Matsushita, alone or in combination of with Armstrong, can render new claims 57-120 obvious.

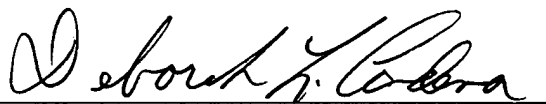
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**CONCLUSION**

In light of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicant submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent or Cathryn Campbell if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

  
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